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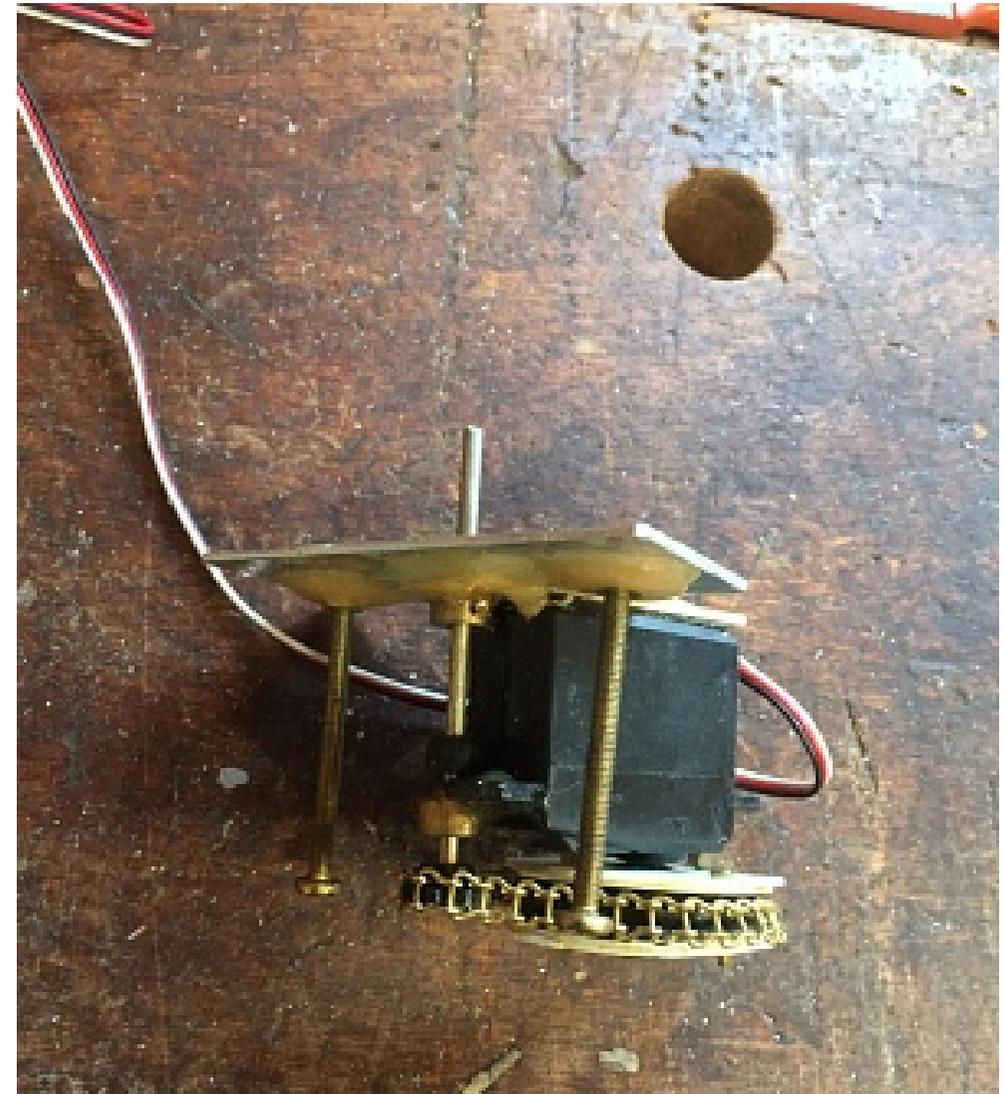
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HMS Repulse.

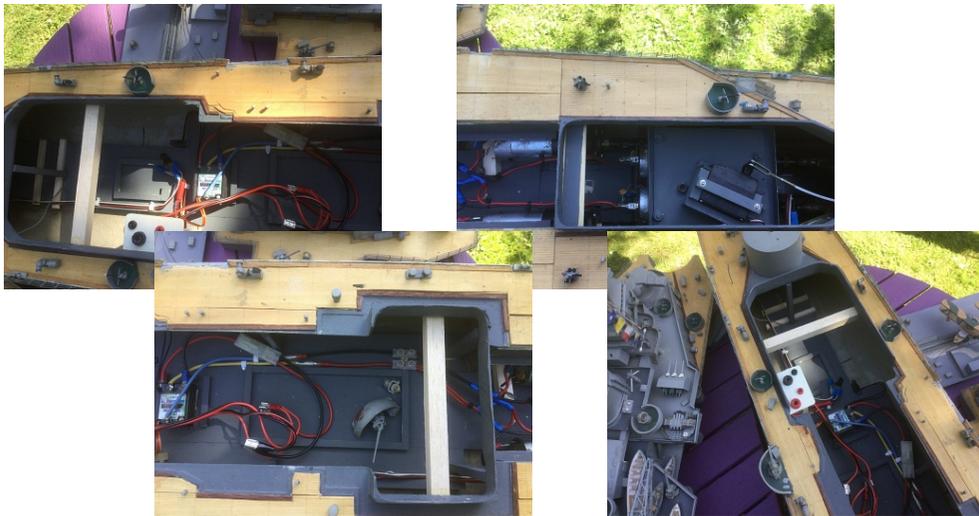
by Scratchbuilder



21st May 2020

HMS Repulse.

Hi All. During lockdown I received a call from a distant acquaintance who said he had something that I may be interested in. After a long and interesting conversation I have acquired the following sad but incredible restoration challenge..... HMS Repulse, in desperate need of a total strip down and rebuild at the hands of HM Dockyard in Devon. This is going to be a long and time consuming refit. I immediately had to put in place some strengthening crossmembers as the sides of the hull were becoming distorted and bowing inwards. I put a speed controller in just to test the motors and they all work but everything is going to be removed rebuilt and replaced. Lots of bits broken off and missing. So..... Long refit but will keep the Refit Blog running. Regards Bill.



23rd May 2020

HMS Repulse

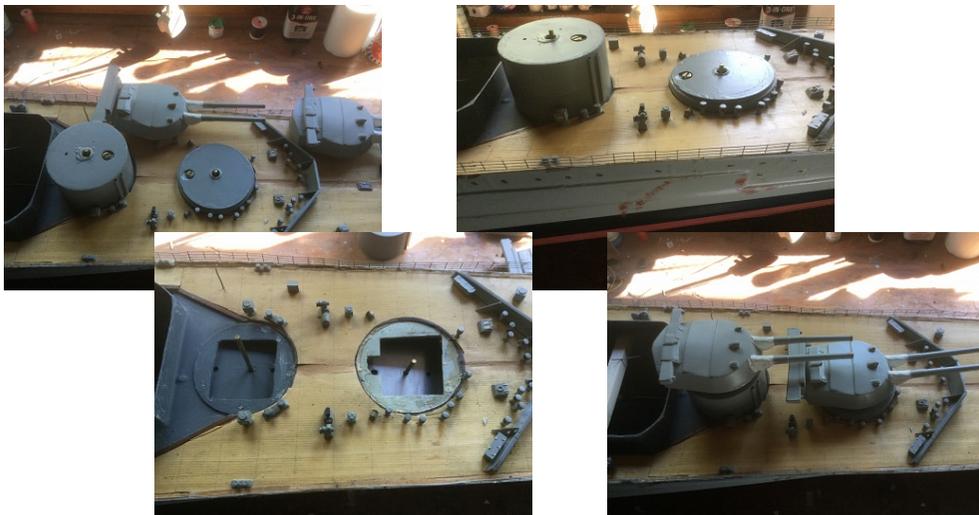
Just added a classic picture of HMS Repulse in her Heyday. I have been doing a lot of research on her life and tragic ending so it will make her rebuild all that much more relevant. Sorry Nerys I forgot to reply to your question. She is 6' 2" long with an 8" beam or 189 x 20 cms in this new fangled metric measurement. This makes her 1/128 scale I think. I am going to start detailed photography soon to compare with life style pictures as I feel that some of the fittings as fitted are not where they should be. I think I will refit her to her paint configuration as at the time of her loss. Regards Bill ?



26th May 2020

HMS Repulse

Today I decided to take a good look at the entire Boat to gauge where to start. I have taken a great amount of photography so that she will go back in the same or more realistic fashion. Having taken off all the removable superstructure sections I decided that I will concentrate on the main hull both structurally and the mechanical components. Starting at the bow I removed the two turrets. Underneath I found two screws which having undone revealed a turret rotation mechanism hidden away. Repulse is giving up her secrets! Taking off the gun barbette's below decks hidden away is a handmade turret rotating mechanism and servo. Removing this I find a quite crude but effective unit and servo. This is suitable to dismantle and rebuild whilst at the same time improving its design. What I am discovering is that whoever built this model previously had some good ideas but was not that tidy in executing them. If you look closely at the pictures shown you can see that finishing leaves a lot to be desired. Sorry if the pictures are not in chronological order. While I am here can I ask if anyone knows of a reliable deck planking supplier. As you can see the existing deck is poor and needs replacing. Regards Bill



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30th Jun 2020

HMS Repulse Refit.

Hi All. As previously stated I decided to refurbish the two forward guns rotating mechanism in the first instance. The original builder had some very good ideas, but sadly was a bit of a bodger and the finished product was leaving a lot to desire. Could be a case of out of site below decks so no one will see it. Firstly I took the entire system apart as the mechanism was binding. This was being caused by the use of brass 3mm shafts which were slightly bent so as the system rotated it was binding. Using an old 4mm prop shaft I enlarged the bearing holes and replaced the entire shaft system. The servo was also at an alarming angle so I repositioned that. The biggest problem was making a new linkage system from servo to sprocket and chain. The old Harry Tait chain system was poor so I devised a new system using a good old tried and tested push pull rods on the servo linkages. This works a treat and I am getting a good rotation from both guns. It just remains for me now to do the finishing touches to the linkages in terms of fine tuning. I will then clean and prepare both turrets and barbets prior to painting. That will be in another blog. They will be put away until the hull is ready to take them again. I am afraid that the pictures are not in the correct order as taken and seem to have got jumbled up. The pictures of the single servo mechanism is the rear turret which I removed to do the same refurbishment. As I thought, it's going to be a long job. Regards Bill.?



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